Claims

1. A method for treating inadequate myocardial function in a mammal comprising the administration to said mammal of a combination of (a) a compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid and (b) a cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor, in combination with limiting fat or cholesterol intake, whereby a serum LDL concentration of less than or equal to 70 mg/dl is achieved and whereby said treatment results in a rapid and enduring reduction in a symptom of inadequate myocardial function.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said serum LDL concentration achieved is less than 55 mg/dl.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said combination further comprises niacin.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said combination comprises aspirin.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said reduction of a symptom of inadequate myocardial function occurs within 2 weeks.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said reduction of a symptom of inadequate myocardial function occurs with 1 week.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid is administered at greater than or equal to 5 g/day.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said compound is a marine lipid.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said marine lipid is a fish oil.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor is administered at greater than or equal to 10 mg/day.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor acts by inhibiting hydroxymethylglutarate (HMG) CoA reductase.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor is chosen from the group consisting of simvastatin, lovastatin, fluvastatin, and pravastatin.

13. The method of claim 3, wherein said niacin is administered at between 0.5 - 3 g/day.

14. The method of claim 4, wherein said aspirin is administered at greater than or equal to 80 mg/day.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein said method further comprises administering to said mammal a bile acid sequestrant.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said sequestrant is administered at between 5 - 20 g/day.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein said sequestrant is chosen from cholestyramine or colestipol.

18. A medication comprising (a) a compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid and (b) a cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor.

19. The medication of claim 18, wherein said compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid is to be administered at greater than or equal to 5 g/day.

20. The medication of claim 18, wherein said compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid is a marine lipid.

21. The medication of claim 20, wherein said marine lipid is a fish oil.

22. The medication of claim 18, wherein said cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor is to be administered at greater than or equal to 10 mg/day.

23. The medication of claim 18, wherein said cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor acts by inhibiting HMG CoA reductase.

24. The medication of claim 18, wherein said cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor is chosen from the group consisting of simvastatin, lovastatin, fluvastatin, and pravastatin.

25. The medication of claim 18, wherein said medication further comprises niacin.

26. The medication of claim 25, wherein said niacin is to be administered at between 0.5 - 3 g/day.

27. The medication of claim 18, wherein said medication further comprises aspirin.

28. The medication of claim 27, wherein said aspirin is administered at greater than or equal to 80 mg/day.

29. The medication of claim 18, wherein said medication further comprises a bile acid sequestrant.

30. The medication of claim 29, wherein said sequestrant is to be administered at between 5 - 20 g/day.

31. The medication of claim 29, wherein said sequestrant is chosen from cholestyramine or colestipol.

32. The medication of claim 18, wherein said medication is used to treat inadequate myocardial function.

33. The medication of claim 18, wherein said medication reduces a coronary artery stenosis by at least 20%.

34. The medication of claim 18, wherein said medication restores blood flow to infarcted myocardium.

35. The medication of claim 18, wherein said medication improves myocardial perfusion without invasive revascularization of a coronary artery.

36. A method for reducing a coronary artery stenosis by at least 20% in a mammal, comprising the administration to said mammal of a cholesterol-lowering therapeutic combined with limiting fat or cholesterol intake, whereby a serum LDL concentration of less than or equal to 75 mg/dl is achieved.

37. A method for restoring blood flow to infarcted myocardium in a mammal, comprising the administration to said mammal of (a) a compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid and (b) a cholesterol-lowering therapeutic, combined with limiting fat or cholesterol intake, whereby a serum LDL concentration of less than or equal to 75 mg/dl is achieved.

38. A method for improving myocardial function without invasive revascularization of a coronary artery in a mammal, said method comprising the administration to said mammal of (a) a compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid and (b) a cholesterol-lowering therapeutic, combined with limiting fat or cholesterol intake, whereby a serum LDL concentration of less than or equal to 75 mg/dl is achieved.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein said method eliminates the need for physical manipulation of a coronary artery.

40. The method of claim 38, wherein said invasive revascularization comprises coronary bypass grafting or angioplasty.

41. The method of claim 38, wherein said method prevents coronary artery disease recurrence for greater than 5 years.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein said method prevents coronary artery disease recurrence for greater than 10 years.

43. The method of claim 38, wherein said improvement in myocardial function occurs within 4 weeks.

44. The method of claim 43, wherein said improvement in myocardial function occurs within 1 week.

45. A method for preventing a heart attack in a mammal at high risk for heart attack due to coronary artery disease, said method comprising the administration to said mammal of (a) a compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid and (b) a cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor, combined with limiting fat or cholesterol intake, whereby a serum LDL concentration of less than or equal to 75 mg/dl is achieved.

46. The method of claim 45, wherein said compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid is administered at greater than or equal to 5 g/day.

47. The method of claim 45, wherein said compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid is a marine lipid.

48. The method of claim 45, wherein said cholesterol synthesis or transfer inhibitor is chosen from the group consisting of simvastatin, lovastatin, fluvastatin, and pravastatin.

49. The methods of claims 36, 37, 38, or 45, wherein said serum LDL concentration achieved is less than 55 mg/dl.

50. The method of claim 45, wherein a bile acid sequestrant is further administered to said mammal.

51. The method of claim 45, wherein niacin is further administered to said mammal.

52. The method of claim 45, wherein aspirin is further administered to said mammal.

53. A method for reducing mortality due to an adverse cardiovascular event, said method comprising the administration to said mammal of (a) a compound comprising eicosapentaeneoic acid or docosahexaeneoic acid and (b) a cholesterol-lowering therapeutic, combined with limiting fat or cholesterol intake, whereby a serum LDL concentration of less than or equal to 75 mg/dl is achieved.

54. The method of claim 53, wherein said serum LDL concentration achieved is less than 55 mg/dl.